



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL  
5720 INTEGRITY DRIVE  
MILLINGTON TN 38055-0000

5720  
PERS 00J6/20210317  
April 27, 2021

Mr. Richard Read  
Seattle Bureau Chief  
Los Angeles Times  
1200 Western Avenue, 17G  
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Mr. Read:

SUBJECT: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted to the U.S. Naval Academy on April 23, 2021. You seek a DD Form 214 and/or any documents that would show why Ethan Michael Nordean was discharged from the U.S. Navy. This command was assigned your request for processing on April 26, 2021. Your FOIA request number is 2021-005997 and FOIA correspondence file number is 20210314.

A releasable copy of a responsive DD Form 214 is enclosed. The redacted portions of the provided DD Form 214 are exempt from disclosure under FOIA exemption 6 [5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)]. Release of such information would constitute clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of Ethan Michael Nordean and other identified individuals. Any available underlying discharge documents responsive to your request are exempt from disclosure in full under FOIA exemption 6 for the same reason as noted above.

I am the official responsible for the partial denial of your request. You have the right to an appeal. Should you wish to submit an appeal, it must be received within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Please provide a letter requesting an appeal and include a copy of your initial request and a copy of this partial denial letter. You are encouraged (though not required) to provide an explanation why you believe the redactions were in error. Also, please provide a copy of your appeal letter to us at Bureau of Naval Personnel, PERS Code 00J6, 5720 Integrity Drive, Millington, TN 38055.

5720  
PERS 00J6/20210317  
April 27, 2021

There are two ways to file an appeal—through FOIAonline or by mail.

1. Through FOIAonline. This will work only if you set up an account on FOIAonline before you make the request that you would like to appeal. To set up an account, go to FOIAonline (this is a website that will appear as the top hit if you search the internet for "FOIAonline"), click "Create Account" (a link located within the blue banner at the top in the upper right corner), enter your data into the field that subsequently appears, and click "Save" (at the bottom left of the screen). With your account thereby created, you will have the power to file an appeal on FOIAonline to any request you file on FOIAonline thereafter. To do so, locate your request (enter a keyword or the request tracking number in the "Search for" field on the "Search" tab), click on it, then the "Create Appeal" tab in the left-hand column. Complete the subsequent field, click "Save," and FOIAonline will submit your appeal.

2. By mail. Address your appeal to:

The Judge Advocate General (Code 14)  
1322 Patterson Avenue SE  
Suite 3000  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066

[Note: the preceding address is the default address. Alternatively, it may be sent to the Department of the Navy General Counsel if appropriate (the Office of the General Counsel generally handles issues outside of those of the uniformed service). That address is as follows:

Department of the Navy  
Office of the General Counsel  
1000 Navy Pentagon  
Room 5A532  
Washington, DC 20350-1000

If you have any questions, please contact me at [david.german@navy.mil](mailto:david.german@navy.mil) or (901) 874-3165. You may also contact the DON FOIA Public Liaison, Christopher Julka, at [christopher.a.julka@navy.mil](mailto:christopher.a.julka@navy.mil), (703) 697-0031. In addition, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) provides a voluntary mediation process for resolving disputes between

5720

PERS 00J6/20210317

April 27, 2021

persons making FOIA requests and the Department of the Navy (DON). For more information, go to <https://www.archives.gov/ogis/about-ogis/contact-information>.

Sincerely,

*David P. German*

D. P. GERMAN  
FOIA/PA Officer

**SERVICE - 7**